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Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Senior Sanitary Inspector

1943.

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Report No. MOH/25.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1943.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BILLINGHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report, the Report for the year 1943.

The year has been noteworthy for the general level of health maintained throughout the area. The Infant Mortality rate has risen from 56 in 1942 to 66, but is well below the level for the previous year, 1941, which was 75 per 1,000. The Birth rate (18.7) continues to be well above the general rate for England and Wales, as it has been for many years, and the Death Rate shows only a slight rise above last year's figures.

Of the infectious diseases there has been a big fall in cases of diphtheria, although a large increase is shown in whooping cough, which caused three deaths. There were two deaths from measles, but all the cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria recovered.

When analysed into areas the incidence of infectious diseases is found to fall heaviest on the most thickly populated areas, in spite of modern housing and amenities, and to fall least on the villages, including the Cowpen Estate. This is a small modern council housing estate, isolated by fields and open spaces on all sides.

Tuberculosis is less troublesome this year, with 24 new cases instead of 44 as in 1942, although the incidence has again been greatest amongst adolescents.

Immunisation against diphtheria has proceeded steadily, and the number of children immunised has been maintained at the high level of approximately 75%. At the beginning of the year there was a drive carried out by the health visitors amongst pre-school children, which had a good effect, although they were working short handed. Towards the end of the year the W.V.S. joined in the effort, and did a round of the streets. Armed with consent forms they made appointments for those willing to be immunised. The schools were visited twice during the year by the doctors, and large numbers of children were given a third, or boosting dose, of A.P.T., and new entrants were immunised for the first or second time.

This year there was no case of dysentery notified, and there were not many cases of diarrhoea compared with the preceding year, when there were many cases and five deaths of children under two years of age. There were, however, four deaths under two years during the year, and this disease, with whooping cough (three deaths), remains one of the most serious for young children.

The work of treating cases of scabies and pediculosis (sometimes complicated by impetigo) was begun in February, and large numbers were treated. Towards the end of the year the epidemic of scabies began to abate, and in December approximately one third the number of persons were attending. The condition was made compulsory notifiable in November, but the only change arising from this was the notification of a few persons working in the area, some of them residing outside.

The First Aid Post was used, and the civil defence staff of the post volunteered for the work, whilst the doctors attended the clinics by turn.

The staff deserve the highest praise for their excellent work. From the beginning the clinic has run smoothly to the satisfaction of all, and to the gratitude of many relieved of their trouble.

Distribution of vitamen supplements consisting of cod liver oil compounds and concentrated orange juice increased during the year.

A total of 2,919 bottles and packets of tablets of cod liver oil compounds and 21,015 bottles of orange juice were issued. This means that approximately half the number of expectant mothers and children under five had regular supplies of orange juice, and a much smaller number had supplies of cod liver oil.

Two new centres of distribution were opened at Wolviston and Cowpen Bewley Villages respectively, and these proved to be a great convenience to the residents of these areas.

The two War Time Nurseries at Billingham and Haverton Hill have continued to care for children under five years old, whose parents are at work. There has been little infectious disease at the nurseries. A few children succumbed to the prevalent epidemics at intervals, and there were some cases of stomatitis, but these were few in number, and the general health of the children steadily improved during their attendance. All the nursery children have been immunised against diphtheria, and most of them against whooping cough.

The District Nurses continued their unremitting care of the sick. They attended in 1943 somewhat fewer cases than during 1942, a further indication of the fairly high level of general good health.

The Child Welfare Centres have continued to be attended by a large proportion of the young children of the area, whilst the ante-natal attendances have increased above pre-war figures, although the birth rate has remained about the same

level. The number of expectant mothers who attended the ante-natal clinics during the year was 292, whilst the number of babies born was 365. The number of mothers attending the post natal and birth control clinics has more than doubled the previous year's figures.

For the future we hope to be able soon to relieve the overcrowding and uncomfortable living conditions due to the shortage of homes for those people who have moved into the area, and for those who have married during the war years. Many have been obliged to share a home with parents or others and are anxious to set up house for themselves.

We shall look forward to the new medical planning, and the possibility of a maternity hospital in our area or adjacent to it, which would fill a long felt want. We hope that some of the health measures, such as the distribution of cod liver oil compounds and concentrated orange juice, the manufacture of rose hip syrup, black currant syrup and puree, and the making of national bread, also the increased consumption of milk and milk products, which have been so successful in assisting to maintain and increase the health of mothers and children, will be continued. It is hoped that before long the use of the new Mass Miniature Radiography will be available in our area, and thereby many early cases of Tuberculosis may be found, whilst as yet easily treated.

I should like to thank many willing hands for their generous help in the varied aspects of modern Public Health, especially the doctors and teachers for their public spirited help with diphtheria immunisation, the scabies problem and health education; the W.V.S. for their assistance with the immunisation and the tedious street rounds they undertook; the many voluntary workers who never failed in the distribution of cod liver oil compounds and concentrated orange juice at Billingham, Haverton Hill, Wolviston and Cowpen Bewley; the Matron and staff of the Wartime Nurseries, which are a benefit to the health of the young children who attend; the

Health visitors, district nurses and the midwives, who are such a fine team of nurses, and who earn the gratitude of all their patients; the civil defence personnel of the First Aid Post, the Mobile Unit and the Ambulances, for their work in treating scabies and pediculosis, for without them this good work would have been impossible, and for the many odd jobs they have done for the nurseries, diphtheria immunisation etc., and lastly the public itself, which "helps us to help it" in maintaining the generally high level of health. Many of our combined efforts would be wasted without an enlightened and progressive community.

I should like, also, to thank all members of the Health Department for their unstinted help and co-operation, and the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

L. R. BENHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

Staff:—

Medical Officer of Health:—
Lalage R. Benham, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:—A. H. Rushworth, C.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:—H. Durkin, M.S.I.A.

Clerks:—R. Ingram, T. Breckon, Miss A. Doran, Miss M. Parkin, Miss E. Bullock, to 22/5/43, Miss L. Smith, from 17/5/43.

Population.

According to the figures supplied by the Registrar General the resident population of the area is estimated at 19,560 and the following figures are accordingly calculated on this basis.

Births.

The number of live births during the year was 365, made up of 200 males and 165 females, which gives a Birth Rate of 18.7.

The number of Still Births was 10 (ten), made up of six males and four females.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths was 198, made up of 112 males and 86 females. This gives a Death Rate of 10.1, and of this the largest incidence was from :—

	Male.	Female.
Heart Diseases	21	12
Inter-cranial Vascular Lesions	13	10
Cancer	13	10
Bronchitis	12	8
Pneumonia	8	7

During the period under review there were 24 deaths of children under one year, and this gives an Infantile Death Rate of 66 per 1,000 live births.

Comparison of Infantile Death Rates.

Billingham.	Stockton.	England & Wales.
66	67	49

The Infantile Death Rate of 66, compared with England and Wales 49, is a very high figure, but, owing to the small size of the area, fluctuations are bound to occur. Since 1936, when it was only 47, the rate has been high in Billingham except for 1938, when it again fell to 49. Apart from prematurity, which was responsible for the loss of 4 (four) babies all under one week old, the chief causes of death were gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea—four deaths, measles and asthenia—three, whooping cough—two, and broncho pneumonia—three.

Most of these deaths should have been preventable, as it is rare for breast fed babies to die of gastro-enteritis, diarrhoea, marasmus or whooping cough.

All these babies were bottle fed, and indeed there was only one death in a breast fed infant above the age of one week. I think these figures are striking enough to be published far and wide, and that mothers, doctors, nurses, home helps, grandmothers and others should all unite in an effort to establish breast feeding, which is, after all, the birthright of every baby. Mothers manage to feed their babies successfully for nine months before they are born. Should it not be possible to do the same for them for six months or so after birth?

In the case of premature infants, improved ante-natal care, with special hospital facilities for premature babies, and the provision of breast milk for all premature infants would be helpful. Modern methods of collecting and freezing or drying of surplus breast milk make this available wherever needed.

Notifiable Diseases.

A total of 392 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, as compared with the figure of 375 for the previous year.

Separate figures are given below, together with a comparative table for the year 1942.

Disease	1943	1942
Meningitis	2	2
Dysentery	5	10
Scarlet Fever	50	41
Whooping Cough	54	8
Diphtheria	43	73
Erysipelas	5	5
Measles	214	213
Pneumonia	19	22
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	1
Total	392	375

The most outstanding point of interest shown by this Table is the welcome decrease of 30 in the number of cases of Diphtheria notified, but against this there has been an increase of nine cases of Scarlet Fever.

There is only a difference of one in the number of cases of Measles notified during the two years, but Whooping Cough notifications went up from eight in 1942 to 54 in 1943, an increase of 46 cases. In 1941 the number of cases notified was 150.

The total number of Scarlet Fever notifications during the year was 50. Two of these cases were diagnosed finally as other than Scarlet Fever, one being Measles and the other Chicken Pox.

One child was notified as Scarlet Fever in March, and diagnosed as such finally. In December after an operation for removal of Tonsils, Scarlet Fever developed again, being finally diagnosed as Scarlet Fever (surgical). This gives a total of 49 (forty-nine) children actually taken into account with 48 (forty-eight) infections being diagnosed as Scarlet Fever.

Location of Infectious Diseases.

The following tables give (a) the location of Diseases in the various Wards, and (b) the percentage in Children in each Ward together with the percentage of each disease.

The numbers of children given as living in each ward is estimated as accurately as possible.

A comparative figure for the previous year is given in each case, the 1942 figures being shown in brackets.

(a) **Location of Diseases.**

Ward	Children in Ward.	W. Cough.	Measles	Diph.	S. Fever	Total.
Haverton Hill North	1803	17	50	6	12	85
	(1766)	(2)	(26)	(26)	(9)	(63)
St. Cuthberts ...	1700	16	101	14	18	149
	(1677)	(6)	(82)	(22)	(20)	(130)
Chiltons	1340	20	38	15	20	93
	(1296)	(—)	(105)	(21)	(10)	(136)
Port Clarence ...	340	—	9	3	—	12
	(325)	(—)	(—)	(1)	(—)	(1)
Haverton Hill South	320	1	10	4	—	15
	(309)	(—)	(—)	(2)	(—)	(2)
Wolviston	160	—	5	1	—	6
	(153)	(—)	(—)	(1)	(2)	(3)
Cowpen Bewley ...	38	—	1	—	—	1
	(38)	(—)	(—)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Totals	5701	54	214	43	50	361
	(5564)	(8)	(213)	(73)	(41)	(335)

(b) **Percentage of Disease and Children in Wards.**

Ward	Children in. Ward	W. Cough.	Measles	Diph.	S. Fever	Total.
Haverton Hill North	31.62	31.5	23.4	14.0	24.0	23.5
	(31.75)	(25.0)	(12.2)	(35.6)	(21.9)	(18.8)
St. Cuthberts ...	29.82	29.6	47.2	32.5	36.0	41.3
	(30.14)	(75.0)	(38.5)	(30.1)	(48.8)	(38.8)
Port Clarence ...	5.96	...	4.2	7.0	...	3.3
	(5.84)	(...)	(...)	(1.4)	(...)	(.3)
Chiltons	23.52	37.1	17.8	34.9	40.0	25.8
	(23.29)	(...)	(49.3)	(28.8)	(24.4)	(40.6)
Haverton Hill South	5.61	1.8	4.6	9.3	...	4.1
	(5.56)	(...)	(...)	(2.7)	(...)	(.6)
Wolviston	2.81	...	2.3	2.3	...	1.7
	(2.75)	(...)	(...)	(1.4)	(4.9)	(.9)
Cowpen Bewley ...	.66	...	.5	...	...	.3
	(.68)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)

On analysis the figures show that the highest incidence of Infectious Disease amongst children occurs in the St. Cuthberts, Chiltons and Haverton Hill North Wards in that order.

St. Cuthberts with 149 cases notified, has a percentage of 41.3 of the total Diseases taken into consideration in the above Tables, Chiltons having 25.8% and Haverton Hill North 23.5%.

The experience of 1942 in the distribution of Infectious Diseases is thus repeated this year, with the heaviest incidence in St. Cuthberts and Chiltons of Measles, Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, which, with Whooping Cough, are the most dangerous Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of Diphtheria in Haverton Hill North has fallen remarkably compared with 1942 and 1941, but unfortunately has increased both in St. Cuthberts and Chiltons.

In the Haverton Hill North Ward it is of interest to make a comparison between the ward as a whole, and the residential area of the Cowpen Estate. The total notified cases were 85, of which 29 are from the Cowpen Estate, made up of 13 cases of Measles, 8 of Scarlet Fever, 6 of Whooping Cough and 2 of Diphtheria. This gives a percentage of 34.1 of the number of cases notified in the Ward.

The Rural areas of Wolviston, Cowpen Bewley and Port Clarence had only a total of 19 cases reported between them, only one case of Measles being notified from Cowpen Bewley. These areas have the least incidence of infectious disease.

Vital Statistics.

The following are extracts from the Vital Statistics sent in by the Registrar General:—

	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1000
Births: Legitimate	187	153	340	
Live: Illegitimate	13	12	25	
	200	165	365	18.7
Still: Legitimate	6	4	10	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
	6	4	10	
Deaths:	112	86	198	Death rate per 1000 = 10.1

Infantile Deaths.

				Death rate per
Legitimate	12	10	22	1000 live
Illegitimate	1	1	2	Births = 66.
	13	11	24	

Women dying in consequence of childbirth:—
From Sepsis nil.
From other causes nil.

Causes of Death.	Male	Female
Whooping Cough	1	2
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	6	2
Tuberculosis—Other	2	0
Influenza	2	2
Measles	0	2
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M), Uterus (F)	0	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	5	3
Cancer of Breast	0	1
Cancer of all other sites	8	6
Diabetes	0	1
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	13	10
Heart Disease	21	12
Other Disorders of Circulatory System	3	1
Bronchitis	12	8
Pneumonia	8	7
Other Respiratory Disorders	4	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	0
Diarrhoea under two years	2	2
Appendicitis	1	0
Other Digestive Disorders	2	0
Nephritis	1	2
Prematurity	3	2
Congenital Maladies, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases	5	3
Road Traffic Accident	1	0

	Male	Female
Other violent causes	3	5
All other causes	7	10
	112	86

Infantile Mortality.

Disease	1 day or under	under 1 week	under 1 month	under 1 year
Asthenia	—	—	—	1
Prematurity	3	1	—	—
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	1	2
Pulmonary Collapse	1	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	—	1	—	—
Acute Diarrhoea	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	2
Asphyxia	—	—	—	1
Marasmus	—	—	—	2
Cardiac Failure	—	—	—	1
Congenital Heart Disease ...	—	—	—	1
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	3
Spina Bifida	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	4	2	2	16

Tuberculosis.

The following Tables show the number of new notifications, both Pulmonary and Non-pulmonary, and the number of deaths reported in the different age groups.

Age period. years	New Cases. Pulmonary. Males.	Pulmonary. Females.	Non-Pulmonary. Males.	Non-Pulmonary. Females.	Deaths. Pulmonary. Males.	Pulmonary. Females.	Non-Pulmonary Males.	Non-Pulmonary Females
0 - 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 5	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 15	—	1	2	4	—	—	1	—
15 - 25	2	2	—	1	1	—	1	—
25 - 35	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
35 - 45	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 - 55	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55 - 65	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	5	5	6	5	3	2	0

This shows a total of 24 notifications during the year, and a total of 10 deaths.

The number of notifications is a decrease of 20 as compared with the previous year, and there is also a decrease of one in the deaths, from 11 in 1942 to 10 in 1943.

The increase in new notifications occurred in 13 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, being just over half of the new cases reported.

When analysed into age groups the highest incidence is in the 15 to 25 years group, as was the case in the 1942 figures.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis—New Cases.

Age Period	1942	1943
5 - 15	2	1
15 - 25	9	4
25 - 35	7	2
35 - 45	7	2
45 - 55	1	2
55 - 65	3	2
Totals	29	13

Diphtheria Immuisation.

The following are the figures reported to the Ministry of Health in the half yearly reports:—

81% of 3855 = 3122.55
62% of 1741 = 1079.42

5596 4201.97 or 75.1% immunised.

The following table gives the number of doses given to the children during the year and also shows where the immunisations took place.

Place	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
C. W. Centres	389	243	77	709
Nurseries	36	46	1	83
Schools	96	55	662	813
Surgeries	58	42	2	102
Car	25	5	—	30
Totals	604	391	742	1737

Cases of Diphtheria in Children.

There was a total of 28 (twenty-eight) cases of this disease notified. One child was notified on two occasions, which means that only 27 (twenty-seven) children were concerned. This child was notified as Diphtheria early in the year, but the final diagnosis was Tonsillitis. Later in the year the child was again notified as a Diphtheria case, and this time the final diagnosis was Diphtheria.

Of the 28 (twenty-eight) notifications of Diphtheria amongst Children, only 15 (fifteen) cases were finally diagnosed as Diphtheria, one being reported as a carrier.

The other 13 (thirteen) cases were finally diagnosed as Tonsillitis, 11 (eleven), Scarlet Fever, 1 (one) and Pneumonia, 1 (one).

Of the 15 (fifteen) cases finally diagnosed as Diphtheria, 8 (eight) were immunised in 1941, 6 (six) were not immunised and 1 (one) was immunised in 1942, but this Child was a carrier and not a case.

Of the 11 (eleven) cases finally diagnosed as Tonsillitis, one was not immunised, 5 (five) were immunised in 1941, and 5 (five) in 1942, whilst the case of Scarlet Fever was immunised in 1942, and the child who died was admitted as Laryngeal Diphtheria, but was finally diagnosed as Pneumonia due to Measles, and was not immunised.

During 1941 the usual doses of A.P.T., used in immunising were O.1c.c., and O.3.c.c., at an interval of four weeks, but during 1942 the dose was increased to O.2c.c., and O.5c.c. In 1943 it was further increased to O.3c.c., and O.6c.c., and during 1943 also, third or boosting doses were given after at least one year's interval.

It is significant to note that no Child immunised with the larger dose contracted diphtheria, and that no Child who had been given a third dose was admitted to hospital.

Scabies.

On February 2nd, 1943, a Cleansing Centre was opened at the Hostel, Haverton Hill, and the regular treatment of cases of Scabies and Verminous Conditions was undertaken with the help of members of the Civil Defence Casualty Services Staff. Treatments were given daily from 9-0 a.m. until 7-0 p.m., with the exception of Sundays, and Public Holidays. As many as 46 cases a day were treated in March and April, but towards the end of the year the numbers decreased, and only 4 to 9 cases a day were being treated in November and December.

The large numbers coming for treatment when the scheme was first put into operation meant a considerable strain on the already depleted Civil Defence Staff, but they rose to the occasion and worked very hard indeed.

The condition was treated as a family problem, and cases of Scabies who were previously seen by their Medical practitioner, and recommended for treatment, were given treatment on arrival at the Hostel. All home contacts were given appointments to be inspected at the Doctor's weekly sessions, and as far as possible the whole household was treated at the same time in order to prevent spread amongst the untreated, and re-infection of the treated cases.

Medical Inspection of Primary cases and Contacts was continued monthly for three months to watch for recurrence or re-infection.

Clothing was usually treated in the home with soap and water and a hot iron. Instructions on printed leaflets were given to all.

In a few cases fumigation was carried out at the Hostel, using Ethyl Formate, which is efficacious also for vermin and their eggs. When the scheme was first put into operation, a pressure steam Disinfector was used by the kind co-operation of the Stockton Public Health Department, but this was soon abandoned in favour of Ethyl Formate and home treatment.

On November 11th, 1943, it was decided to make the notification of Scabies compulsory, and from that date 7 (seven) cases of Scabies were notified up to the end of the year under review.

A total number of 846 persons were examined for Scabies, Impetigo or Pediculi, the number of Primary cases seen being 312, and in addition, 534 Contacts were also examined.

Of the 312 Primary Cases concerned, 243 were found to be suffering with Scabies, and 69 were infected with Pediculi.

With the addition of 391 Contacts, who were found to be infected with Scabies, a total of 703 cases were found to be in need of treatment. Of these 703 cases, 236 were Adults, 370 Schoolchildren, and 97 Children under five years of age.

There were 49 Doctor's Sessions throughout the period the scheme was in operation during the year, and the average number of Persons seen per session was 27.

	Cases		Primary Cases			Contacts			Treatments			
	Seen	Treated	Scabies	Pediculi	Total	Scabies	Clear	Total	Scabies	Impetigo	Vermin	Total
February—April ...	358	292	88	30	118	174	66	240	836	241	19	1096
May	109	94	23	19	42	52	15	67	365	...	21	386
June	61	51	28	7	35	16	10	26	274	28	24	326
July	70	57	21	6	27	30	13	43	183	26	55	264
August	33	33	21	6	27	6	...	6	153	93	15	261
September ...	65	62	16	1	17	45	3	48	176	79	...	255
October	54	38	18	...	18	20	16	36	239	55	...	294
November ...	55	41	19	...	19	22	14	36	212	27	...	239
December ...	41	35	9	...	9	26	6	32	97	2	...	99
Totals ...	846	703	243	69	312	391	143	534	2535	551	134	3220

	Persons suffering from Scabies			
	Adult	School Children	Under 5 years	Total
February—April ...	104	161	27	292
May	35	51	8	94
June	16	26	9	51
July	16	32	9	57
August...	12	13	8	33
September	21	29	12	62
October	10	19	9	38
November	12	23	6	41
December	10	16	9	35
Totals ...	236	370	97	703

	Daily Treatments			No. of Drs.	No. of Cases seen each session		
	Min.	Max.	Average	Sessions	Min'	Max.	Average
Feb.—April ...	...	...	...	13	11	52	28
May... ...	11	39	15	4	26	48	37
June... ...	4	18	13	4	21	43	28
July	2	21	10	5	15	53	28
August ...	4	16	10	4	14	28	22
September ...	4	24	10	5	13	26	18
October ...	2	23	15	3	20	32	26
November ...	4	19	9	6	21	48	32
December ...	...	12	4	5	3	20	15

Immunisation Against Whooping Cough.

There is an increased demand for protection against Whooping Cough, and a number of Children attending the War Time Nurseries, the Welfare Centres and the Doctor's Surgeries, have been immunised against this disease as well as against Diphtheria. Pertussis Vaccine was used, each child

getting four injections of 1 c.c., 1.5 c.c. 1.5 c.c. and 2 c.c. Later Pertussis Forte (concentrated) Vaccine was used with a much smaller dose (0.4 c.c.) for three weekly doses, followed by a fourth dose one month later.

Where Children were Immunised against both Whooping Cough and Diphtheria, separate Injections were given in different arms, rather than a combined dose.

Billingham Urban District Nursing Association.

This is a voluntary nursing association, administered by a Local Committee and supported by voluntary contributions. By far the biggest contributions are received from workmen employed in the various industries of the area. There are also many other loyal friends and supporters of the Association.

The Staff consists of three fully trained Nurses, who undertake home visits and home nursings.

On the resignation of Nurses Garth and Bryant in February, Nurse Langstaff, Haverton Hill, became Senior Nurse and Nurses Callender and Dent were appointed to the vacancies at Billingham.

A Nurses Home is provided at 51, Bedale Avenue, Billingham, for the two Billingham Nurses, with a telephone installed. Mrs. Langstaff resides in her own home at 1, Cedar Terrace, Port Clarence. They provide their own bicycles.

The Rushcliffe Committee's recommendations, both as to salary and conditions of service, have been adopted by the Association, and were made retrospective to 1st April, 1943.
Facilities — Stretchers — Fortunately, during the year the stretchers have not been required for use on account of the falling off in air-raids and warnings. The other equipment, bedpans, backrests, waterproof sheets, etc., are in great demand, and have been continuously in use free of charge.

A Committee has been appointed to discuss the problem of a Convalescent and Maternity Home for the area, but the question has been in abeyance, awaiting developments in regard to the new National Health Service proposals.

The following tables shows the numbers of Medical, Surgical and Casual Cases, most of which are in Billingham, which is the main residential area.

Month	Medical	Surgical	Casual	Total
January	478	321	38	837
February	350	295	31	676
March	352	279	7	638
April	295	332	21	638
May	278	412	58	748
June	233	339	17	589
July	286	423	7	716
August	317	408	16	741
Sept.	287	419	15	721
October	404	363	25	792
November	383	409	15	807
December	517	361	20	898

Location of Cases.

A table showing the location of the cases treated during the year is given below, together with a list of new cases sent in by Doctors. There are a few cases of accidents and casual cases which have had treatment, these being shown in the same table.

Month	Port Clarence	Haverton Hill	Billingham	Sent by Dociors	Other Sources
January	98	131	608	36	-
February	77	103	496	31	3
March	75	138	425	30	4
April	101	122	425	23	5
May	125	130	493	35	5
June	82	56	451	20	4
July	74	95	547	29	5
August	108	117	516	36	4
Sept.	53	89	569	24	2
October	95	101	596	23	4
November	117	89	601	33	2
December	132	109	657	32	5

War Time Nurseries.

The two Nurseries, built and opened under the administration of Durham County early in 1942, have been in operation daily, excluding Sundays, from 6-30 a.m., to 6 p.m.

The Nursery, Tame Street, Haverton Hill.

This Nursery has been popular since it opened on June 22nd 1942. During 1943 the attendances for each half year are double those of the first six months the nursery was open, and for most of the time the places have been fully booked.

All the children in the nursery have been immunised against diphtheria and many of them against whooping cough also. There have been a few cases of infectious disease with the prevailing epidemics, but on the whole the children have been remarkably healthy and free from infections. They have all gained weight during the year, they all look well and happy. The staff are grateful for the gifts of toys and playthings for the children and would appreciate help with the garden. The sand pits is a constant joy to the children and needs refilling.

The Matron (Mrs. Murray) reports that the Nursery has been open on 303 days during the past year, with a minimum attendance of 11 and a maximum of 46 children.

The following table shows the number of days open, total attendance, daily average and the daily maximum month by month. June and July show a daily average of 36, while five other months have attendances which average over 30 daily.

Month	Days Open	Total Attendance	Daily Av.	Daily Max.
January	24	375	16	21
February	24	586	24	29
March	27	655	24	29
April	26	716	28	37
May	26	871	33	39
June	24	863	36	46
July	26	931	36	46
August	25	766	31	39
Sept.	26	882	34	41
October	25	775	31	39
November	26	832	32	38
December	24	648	27	37

The Nursery, Cheviot Crescent, Billingham.

This Nursery was open on 303 days through the year under review, but separate figures are not available. During the year the total attendances was 8,507, which gives an average daily attendance of 28.

Here the children also have all been immunised against diphtheria and against whooping cough. They are healthy, happy children. There has been no major epidemics amongst them, and little infectious disease, apart from some cases of stomatitis and scattered infections.

The sand pit and sand and water trays have been put to good use, and the children derive much pleasure from their games and instruction.

The Staff are grateful for the gifts of toys and the repair work undertaken by Billingham Intermediate School. The need is always for toys, and more toys.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1943.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
HAVERTON HILL,
June, 1944.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith my Nineteenth Annual Report on the work of my department. Civil defence duties have not been quite so onerous, therefore, it has been possible to give more attention to the proper duties of the department and much useful work has been carried out. For example, milk samples have been taken, houses inspected, smoke abatement again considered, close attention given to refuse collection and disposal, enquiries made with regard to cases of scabies with a view to improving home conditions, and general inspections have greatly increased.

I am much indebted to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their generous support and I wish to acknowledge the willing and capable assistance which I have received from the members of my staff.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
A. H. RUSHWORTH,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND OTHER DETAILS

Dwellinghouses, under inspection of District Regulations	57
Dwellinghouses under Public Health Acts	87
Dwellinghouses under Infectious Diseases	106
Dwellinghouses Disinfected	99
Bakehouses	3
Dairies, Milkshops and Conveyances	23
Cowsheds	18
Slaughterhouses	3
Verminous Premises & Persons	258
Fried Fish Shops	6
Meat and other Foods	116
Ice Cream Premises	1
Drains Tested or Inspected	307
Complaints Investigated	666
Visits to Works in Progress	33
Food and Drug Samples	14
Stables and Piggeries	16
Dirty Premises	17
Public Baths	12
Refuse Tips	78
Interviews	164
Farms	15
Shops	9
Butchers' "Making-up" places	6
Water Supply	49
Refuse Collection	15
Rats and Mice	247
Infectious Diseases (Scabies—87)	190
Overcrowding	11
Miscellaneous Visits	297
Bedding removed and destroyed	3
Salvage of Waste Materials	62
Scavenging	34
Allotments	5
Visits to premises under notice	57

Milk Samples for Bacteriological Examination... ...	15
Milk Samples for Biological T.B. Examination ...	15
Public Conveniences	3
Smoke Observations	2
Canteens	12
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	18
Samples of Public Baths Water obtained	1

NUMBER AND TYPE OF NOTICES.

Informal Notices served	287
Informal Notices complied with	258
Informal Notices outstanding from previous year ...	—
Informal Notices complied with	16
Statutory Notices served	—

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

HOUSES.

Internal dampness	1
Defective Roofs	16
„ Eavesgutters and Fallpipes	6
„ Window Brickwork	1
„ Window Frames, Cords, Glazing and Fastenings	5
„ Firegrates and Ovens	2
„ Plasterwork	3
„ Gullies	1
„ Water Pipes and Taps	8
„ Inspection Chambers	9
„ Sink Waste Pipes	4
„ Drain Ventilators	4
„ Ceilings	2
„ Paths and Yard Paving	3
„ Floors	3

WATER CLOSETS

Defective	Water Pipes	6
„	Cisterns	4
„	Waste Pipes	2
„	Soil Pipes	1

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Dust Bins provided and renewed	235
Blocked Drains and Sink waste pipes cleared	173
Verminous Premises disinfected	39
Books Disinfected	108

HOUSING.

A considerable amount of attention has been given to this question as the repair of houses is a very important matter. Apart from bomb damage repairs, there is a tendency for owners to play on the fact that materials and labour are difficult to obtain and certain properties in the area have been allowed to get into a deplorable condition. Consequently, an inspection was made by a Sub-Committee and I was instructed to make a detailed report with a view to taking statutory action, although there are certain factors which complicate matters.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

A. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.

1.	(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	83
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	142
2.	(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	4
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	6
3.	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—

4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 26

B. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 10

C. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Nothing done.

D. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

A few cases of overcrowding have been enquired into but apart from reducing the number of lodgers in a house, nothing much can be done owing to the acute shortage of houses.

WATER

An abundant supply of pure, soft water is provided by the Tees Valley Water Board.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

It is recognised that the sewage works at Wolviston are unsuitable and inadequate. The Council has given much attention to the matter and are now considering a scheme for the laying of a new trunk sewer discharging into Greatham Beck, which will be necessary before land north of Billingham Station can be developed. Provision is to be made in the scheme for picking up the sewer from Wolviston and abolishing the sewage works.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number and type of conveniences attached to private houses and shops is given below:—

Privies 153

Water Closets 5574

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A detailed report of Refuse Collection and Disposal which includes the Salvage of Waste Materials is given separately.

BAKEHOUSES.

Bakehouses have been inspected and found satisfactory.

SHOPS.

The position regarding shops remains much the same with closing more often and more early, which can be expected with rationing and black-out conditions.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Fish frying is the only established offensive trade and there has been no complaint from this source.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

A. Milk Supply.

It is pleasing to report that milk sampling has been recommenced, fifteen (15) samples being taken for cleanliness and the biological T.B. test. The following is a copy of the Bacteriologist's report:—

Sample No.	Micro-Organisms per 1 ml	Coliform Content				Methylene Blue Test	Grade
		1 ml	.1 ml	.01 ml	.001ml		
437	126000	plus	plus	plus	minus	Unsatisfactory	Non-Graded
438	201000	,,	,,	minus	,,	,,	,,
439	230000	minus	minus	,,	,,	,,	,,
440	147000	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
441	11000	plus	plus	plus	plus	,,	Pasteurised
442	10700	,,	minus	minus	minus	Satisfactory	Non-Graded
443	113000	,,	plus	plus	,,	Unsatisfactory	,,
444	5000	,,	minus	minus	,,	Satisfactory	,,
445	5200	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
446	161000	,,	plus	,,	,,	Unsatisfactory	,,
447	182000	,,	minus	,,	,,	,,	,,
448	76000	,,	plus	plus	,,	,,	,,
449	147000	,,	,,	,,	plus	,,	Pasteurised
450	3700	,,	,,	minus	minus	Satisfactory	T.T.
451	19400	,,	,,	,,	,,	Unsatisfactory	Non-Graded

On the whole, the samples are not too bad in view of neglected supervision of milk production, although there is a difference in results from the bacteria and coliform test and methylene blue test.

Sample No. 441 failed to pass the phosphates test, indicating inefficient pasteurisation. This sample was from a central depot at Northallerton.

Sample No. 449 also from this depot, was positive to the T.B. test, and it was quite impossible to trace the infected supply.

Two further samples from local farms, positive to T.B. test were followed up by Veterinary Inspectors and resulted in two (2) cows being removed and slaughtered.

Prior to the war, all unsatisfactory samples were followed up by visits to the farms and repeat samples taken until a good result was obtained.

From the above remarks, it will be clearly evident that where an Official has freedom of action, and the full support of his Committee, such as I am fortunate in having, very useful work could be done in obtaining a pure milk supply. If every Local Authority had given the same attention as Billingham to this question, it is very doubtful whether there would have been any need for the transfer of powers to a central authority which is now under consideration.

The undermentioned licences have been granted to retail purveyors for the sale of graded milk:—

"Tuberculin Tested" milk	1
"Accredited" milk	-
"Pasteurised" milk	2

The following table gives the number of persons and premises registered:—

Register of farms and other places used as dairies ...	27
Register of retail purveyors of milk	23
Register of cowkeepers, dairymen and wholesale purveyors of milk	27

B. Meat and other Foods.

There is no change in the scheme regarding slaughtering and the distribution of meat. Slaughtering is done centrally and distribution is by means of a box van which has been inspected occasionally to see that cleanliness is properly observed. Foodstuffs as a whole have received careful attention which has resulted in the following articles being condemned:—

32 lbs. chilled beef.
12¾ lbs. corned beef.
11 stones 9½ lbs. fillet cod.
1¾ dozen shell eggs.
1 cwt. beans.
24 lbs. sausage.
15 2lb. jars assorted jams and marmalade.
3 lbs. sugar.
306 tins miscellaneous foodstuffs.

C. Adulteration.

During the year, fourteen (14) samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst which, with the exception of a sample of milk, were reported genuine. The vendor of the adulterated milk sample was prosecuted and fined £1 and £2/2/- costs.

The following is a list of samples purchased:—

Nature of Samples	Formal or Informal	Analyst's Report
Lemon Squash	Informal	Genuine Quality
Butter...	,,	,,
Sauce	,,	,,
Gelatine	,,	,,
Stuffing	,,	,,
Camphorated Oil ...	,,	,,
Self-raising flour containing egg ...	,,	,,
Polony	,,	,,
Milk	Formal	,,
,, ...	,,	,,
,, ...	,,	,,
,, ...	,,	Defficient in Non-fatty solids corresponding to the addition of 3.70% of water.
,,	,,	Genuine Quality

D. Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

All chemical work is done by the County Analyst and bacteriological and biological examinations of milk samples are performed at King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Patronage of the Public Baths has been well maintained, attendances being practically the same as last year with 69,580 persons and 10,819 members of H.M. Forces using the swimming pool, and 8,861 persons using the slipper baths.

The benefit from these facilities cannot be over estimated and the pleasure and healthy exercise obtained must be very great.

A sample of water taken after a heavy bathing load gave the following very good results:—

"Sample of Baths Water taken 9-10 p.m. 7/7/43:—

"Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar at 37 deg. C. after 72 hours 8 per ml.

"Number of colones on Nutrient Agar at 20/22 deg. C. after 72 hours 25 per ml.

"Presumptive B. Coli Test at 37 deg. C. after 72 hours Negative in 100 ml.

"Clostridium Welchii Test at 44 deg. in 41 ml., after 48 hours Negative

"Free Chlorine 0.10 of a part per million.

The sample is of a high order of bacterial purity, and it is perfectly satisfactory.

(Sgd) CYRIL J. H. STOCK."

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Reference was made in last year's report to the serious nature of this nuisance which makes life in certain parts of Haverton Hill unbearable. Relaxing of remedial steps taken before the war coupled with greater output have combined to bring about a state of affairs which caused perfectly justified complaints to be made. Towards the latter part of the year, the complaints were so numerous that the Council took up the matter with the Firm concerned. The Council's representations were sympathetically received and a promise made to do whatever is possible under prevailing conditions to mitigate the nuisance, which is the most that can be hoped for until more labour and materials are available.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Details regarding Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health. Enquiries are made into each case, patients removed to hospital, houses disinfected and library books in infected houses removed and disinfected before being re-issued.

Disinfectant is supplied free, with a small charge on the bottle to ensure return. 1,327 bottles were issued during the year.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

There has been a slight increase in the number of complaints received regarding verminous premises which is not surprising as the standard of cleanliness appears to have deteriorated with some people during the war. Possibly this may be due to the fact that may women are now working long hours in industry and domestic help is difficult to obtain. Of thirty-four (34) complaints received, fifteen (15) were bug infestations and of these four (4) were in Council houses. The remaining complaints were beetles (19), fleas (3) and lice (4). An interesting case of infestation by beetles concerned a new school in which there should be very little harbourage for this pest. A sealed pipe duct under the solid floors is suspected and the matter is in the hands of the County Council.

ANNUAL REPORT ON REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOR 1943/44.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
HAVERTON HILL.
June, 1944.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting herewith my Fourteenth Annual Report on the collection and disposal of refuse covering the financial year ended the 31st March, 1944.

Salvage of Waste Materials has again formed an integral part of the service, and a statement of materials collected, and expenditure and income are given in Appendix II. The service has been operated on the usual lines, with much attention given to the financial side full details of which are given in Appendix I Other aspects of the work are given under appropriate headings.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
A. H. RUSHWORTH,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

MANUAL LABOUR

The number of men employed and the nature of their employment is as follows:—

Foreman	1
Refuse collection and Salvage of waste materials	17
Refuse disposal	1
Freighter driving	3
	22

Manual labour is undoubtedly the chief difficulty with regard to this service and during the year, a comprehensive report was submitted to the Public Health Committee in which the difficulty of obtaining men and also the ages of the men engaged was referred to. It is unlikely that the position will alter very much during the war. Wages have again increased and the percentage to the total cost of the service is 83.74% as against 83.56% for the previous year. A pleasing feature has been the adoption by the Council of improved service conditions for the men, the principal item being four (4) weeks sick leave at full pay and four (4) weeks sick leave at half pay.

VEHICLES

The usual information concerning the three vehicles used for this work is given in the following tables.

RELIABILITY

Vehicle	Possible No. of hours	No. of hours lost for repairs	Percentage of hours worked
9 Cu. Yard 14½ yrs. old	2,352 (2,396)	45½ (36½)	98.07 (98.47)
10 Cu. Yard 13½ yrs. old	2,388½ (2,499½)	122 (54½)	94.9 (97.8)
12 Cu. Yard 4 yrs. old	2,346½ (2,257)	43½ (155½)	98.14 (93.11)

RUNNING COSTS.

Vehicle.	Tot'l Cost.	Wages.	Licences, etc.	Petrol, Oil and Grease.	Repairs and Renewals.
9 Cu. Yd.	346-8-2 (383-13-1)	223-16-8 (222-14-4)	46-0-7 (46-2-7)	71-0-6 (73-7-10)	5-10-5 (43-8-4)
10 Cu. Yd.	420-4-2 (365-18-2)	234-1-1 (237-8-3)	42-1-0 (41-5-7)	83-12-7 (71-16-10)	60-9-6 (15-7-6)
12 Cu. Yd.	398-6-4 (381-3-3)	224-11-4 (230-10-5)	56-5-7 (57-1-0)	105-0-0 (75-16-7)	12-9-5 (17-15-3)

NUMBER AND WEIGHT OF LOADS REMOVED.

Vehicle	No. of Loads Removed.	Weight per Load.	Total Weight.
		T. C. Q.	T. C. Q.
9 Cu. Yard	616 (541)	2 8 1 (2 8 1)	1486 2 0 (1305 3 1)
10 Cu. Yard.	539 (580)	2 8 1 (2 8 1)	1300 6 3 (1399 5 0)
12 Cu. Yard	521 (460)	2 18 1 (2 18 1)	1517 8 1 (1339 15 0)
		Total Tonnage ...	4303 17 0 (4044 3 1)
Horse & Cart (Night Soil)	100 (100)	15 0 (15 0)	75 0 0 (75 0 0)
		Grand Totals	4378 17 0 (4119 3 1)

MILES PER LOAD AND PETROL CONSUMPTION.

Vehicle.	No. of Loads Removed	Miles Run.	Petrol (Galls)	Miles per Gallon	Miles per Load.
9 Cu. Yd.	616 (541)	2,326 (1,788)	737 (797)	3.15 (2.24)	3.77 (3.3)
10 Cu. Yd.	539 (580)	3,298 (3,615)	871 (833)	3.79 (4.34)	6.11 (6.23)
12 Cu. Yd.	521 (460)	4,083 (4,008)	1227 (930)	3.33 (4.3)	7.83 (8.71)

(Figures in brackets relate to 1942-43 Report).

The facts given concerning the first two vehicles is, I think, a testimonial to the Manufacturers when the age of the vehicles is taken into consideration, and regard must also be given to the fact that maintenance attention has not been so regular during the war years. I think the small number of hours lost on repair work is distinctly satisfactory. Running costs show no great variation except that the 10-cubic yard freighter shows a considerable increase in repairs and renewals due largely to the renewal of tyres. The number of loads removed is actual but the weight is estimated. Petrol consumption again indicates that a better miles per gallon is obtained where the average haul per load is longer.

REFUSE COLLECTION

In the main, it has been possible to maintain a once-weekly collection, a standard which, I think, ought not to be reduced. It could be suggested, of course, that most articles usually put in the dust bin should be made available for Salvage and if this were done, there should be little really waste matter to collect. But the simple fact remains that many people fail to carry out what is expected of them in salvage matters.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is still being disposed of by controlled tipping in a disused clay pit adjoining the Cowpen Lane Estate. Reference was made in last year's report to a serious fly nuisance in a

number of houses close to the tip due to neglect in the early years of the war. The tip has now been put into a satisfactory condition and spraying with a suitable insecticide is carried out daily during the summer months. This action has proved very successful in abating the nuisance.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF NIGHT SOIL

The privy middens at Wolviston and Cowpen Bewley are emptied once weekly by contract, the night soil being disposed of on farm land.

NUMBER AND TYPE OF RECEPTACLES

Dust Bins	5702
Privies	152
Ash Pits	16

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS

Close attention has been given to this matter and a detailed report is given in Appendix II which compares very favourably with last year. Salvage is collected weekly at the same time as household refuse. This method to which householders have become accustomed has proved reasonably satisfactory.

COST

The usual detailed account of expenditure and income which includes salvage, is given in Appendix I, with the previous year's figures in brackets for comparison. There has been a slight decrease in the overall cost of the service and this would have been more pronounced but for the fact that wage increases have amounted to £333/7/10 which, added to reduced income from Salvage, has made a slight increase in the net cost per 1,000 population and per 1,000 houses. Cost per ton shows a decrease but this is due to increased tonnage which is only estimated and therefore not accurate.

APPENDIX I—HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing Costs for Year ended 31st March, 1944.

	COLLECTION		DISPOSAL.		TOTALS.	
	Including Depreciation or Loan Charges.	Excluding Depreciation or Loan Charges.	Including Depreciation or Loan Charges.	Excluding Depreciation or Loan Charges.	Including Depreciation or Loan Charges.	Excluding Depreciation or Loan Charges.
Revenue A/c.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
A. Gross Expenditure	5334 1 10 (5466 15 0)	5089 14 8 (5072 5 10)	333 10 6 (421 19 8)	259 15 6 (348 9 8)	5667 12 4 (5888 14 8)	5349 10 2 (5420 15 6)
B. Gross Income	1434 3 5 (1755 10 11)	1434 3 5 (1755 10 11)			1434 3 5 (1755 10 11)	1434 3 5 (1755 10 11)
C. Net Cost	3899 18 5 (3711 4 1)	2655 11 3 (3316 11 11)	333 10 6 (421 19 8)	259 15 6 (348 9 8)	4233 8 11 (4133 3 9)	3915 6 9 3665 4 7)
Unit Costs						
D. Gross Expenditure per ton	1 4 4.3d (1 6 6.6d)	1 3 2.9d (1 4 7.5d)	1 6.3d (2 0.6d)	1 2.2d (1 8.3d)	1 5 10.6d (1 8 7.1d)	1 4 5.1d (1 6 3.8d)
E. Gross Income per ton ...	6 6.6d (8 6.5d)	6 6.6d (8 6.5d)			6 6.6d (8 6.5d)	6 6.6d (8 6.5d)
F. Net Cost per ton	17 9.7d (18 0)	16 8.3d (16 1)	1 6.3d (2 0.6d)	1 2.2d (1 8.3d)	19 4 (1 0 0.6d)	17 10.5d (17 9.3d)
G. Net Cost per 1,000 population	192 2 3 (182 16 4)	180 1 6 (163 7 8)	16 8 7 (20 15 9)	12 15 11 (17 3 4)	208 10 10 (203 12 1)	192 17 5 (180 11 0)
H. Net Cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	693 3 11 (660 7 2)	649 15 3 (590 3 4)	59 5 7 (75 1 8)	46 3 6 (62 0 2)	752 9 6 (735 8 10)	695 18 9 (652 3 6)

RATE POUNDAGE.

J. Net Cost: equivalent rate in £.... ... 4.77d (4.89d). K. Percentage of J. to total rates in £. ... 2.8% (2.9%)

(1) Total refuse collected (includes 75 tons of Night Soil) 4,379 (4,119) tons
(2) Population 20,300 (20,300)
(3) Weight per 1,000 population per day 11.82 cwts. (11.12 cwts)
(4) Number of houses and premises 5,626 (5,627)
(5) Rateable Value (£222,458) (£221.252)
(6) Product of a penny rate (estimated) £888 (£845)
(7) Total Rates in £ 14/2 (14/-)

APPENDIX II.

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS

EXPENDITURE.

	1942-43. £ s. d.	1943-44. £ s. d.
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE :		
Bins for Kitchen Waste	42 5 0	
Baling Press for Tins	150 0 0	
Carriage on Baler	5 1 11	
	197 6 11	
WAGES, ETC. :		
Wages	824 12 4	815 16 10
Holiday Pay	15 17 5	15 14 7
Sick Pay	3 3 9	17 11 6
Bonus	247 1 9	156 16 10
Insurance and Superannuation	30 0 10	29 8 10
	1120 16 1	1035 8 7
WORKING EXPENSES :		
Advertising & Printing	1 8 0	4 11 4
Balax and Wire	18 5 2	11 9 8
Freighter Charges for delivery of Kitchen Waste less wages	14 11 0	10 1 11
New Pinions for Baler	1 17 8	
Cement flags for Baler	17 4	
Workmen's Gloves	11 11	
Haulage (Kitchen Waste)	8 5 0	
Workmen's Overalls	4 4 9	
	50 0 10	26 2 11
TOTAL EXPENDED	1368 3 10	1061 11 6
BALANCE	383 3 4	369 10 9
TOTALS	£1751 7 2	£1431 2 3

INCOME.

	1942-43. T C Q lb.	£ s. d.	1943-44. T C Q lb.	£ s. d.
PAPER :				
Mixed	145 7 0 16	902 0 0	114 3 3 14	727 5 11
Newspaper	4 11 1 26	46 7 1	2 13 1 8	22 17 10
Cardboard	2 6 1 8	12 7 8		
Books	6 7 0 8	51 18 4	1 9 1 8	10 5 3
Kraft	9 3 22	3 8 11		
Cement Bags			13 2 20	4 8 11
	159 1 3 24	1016 2 0	119 0 0 22	764 17 11
SCRAP :				
Mixed Scrap	25 4 0 0	49 7 8	12 7 0 0	20 5 6
Loose Tins	49 10 0 0	96 10 7		
Baled Tins	27 16 2 0	60 11 10	55 9 3 14	114 14 10
	102 10 2 0	206 10 1	67 16 3 14	135 0 4
RAGS, ETC.				
Rags	9 13 2 14	193 12 6	10 2 1 0	202 5 0
Matting	3 18 0 0	15 12 0	5 9 3 0	21 19 0
Bedding	18 0 0	3 12 0		
String	4 1 14	1 10 7	14 2 0	3 3 3
	14 14 0 0	214 7 1	16 6 2 0	227 7 3
NON-FERROUS METALS :				
Aluminium	1 3 27	5 16 1	2 1 0	8 8 9
Brass	4 2 7	4 17 10	3 2 7	4 7 7
Lead	6 1 7	5 2 11	4 1 14	3 18 9
Pewter	12	12 8	11	12 10
Copper	1 3 15	3 16 0	2 1 0	4 10 0
Zinc			3 20	13 3
	14 3 12	20 5 6	13 1 24	22 11 2
BONES :	4 18 1 0	19 15 1	3 12 0 0	17 2 0
RUBBER :				
Mixed	1 1 2 0	2 13 9	7 15 1 0	19 8 1
Tyres	2 18 2 2	6 4 9		
	4 0 0 2	8 18 6	7 15 1 0	19 8 1
KITCHEN WASTE :	95 17 2 0	143 16 3	104 11 2 0	149 6 6
JARS AND BOTTLES :				
Milk Bottles	33½ doz.	16 9	4 doz.	2 0
Bottles—3 gill.	447 ,,	11 3 6	6 ,,	6 0
Sauce Bottles	146 ,,	2 7 11		
Jars—1 lb.	1956 ,,	73 7 0	2056 ,,	77 2 0
,, 2 lb.	472 ,,	23 12 0	259 ,,	12 19 0
Other Bottles	5½ ,,	5 6		
	3069 doz.	111 12 8	2325 doz.	90 9 0
HAULAGE on Salvage delivered to Middlesbro.		10 0 0		5 0 0
		£1751 7 2		£1431 2 3

The above is a statement of expenditure and income on the collection of waste materials for the year ended the 31st March, 1944, with the previous year's figures given for comparison. The first thing to be noticed is the reduced income due solely to a smaller amount of materials collected. This is general throughout the country and to be expected in view of the fact that old accumulations of salvage have already been collected. Certain articles such as books and metal scrap can only be made available once. In fact, the reduced income on these two items alone amounts to more than the difference of income between the two years, although it must be remembered that last year a quantity of paper was obtained from a source where it is not normally available; also, there was increased income from tins accumulated over a long period. Apart from these two items, there has been a slight reduction in bones, jars and bottles, with an increase in rags, non-ferrous metals, rubber and kitchen waste.

Turning to expenditure, it will be seen that there is a considerable reduction chiefly of capital expenditure, as there is no comparable item to the tin baling press purchased last year. The cost of this machine has already been recovered on the sale of baled tins and the nuisance from large accumulations of loose tins has been obviated. The reduction of expenditure approximates the reduction of income so that a credit balance almost equal to last year, is available.

Everything considered, the year's working has been satisfactory, with collections well maintained, although with a salvage-minded public, greater amounts of salvage could, undoubtedly, be collected.

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Senior Sanitary Inspector.